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1977

The Ontario  
Provincial Parks  
Council

Third Annual  
Report



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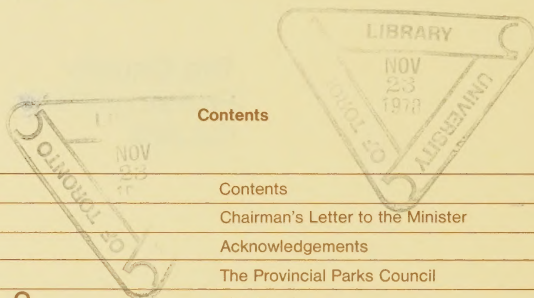
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The Ontario  
Provincial Parks  
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Third Annual  
Report



Back Packing along the Shore, Lake Superior Provincial Park



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### Chairman's Letter to the Minister

July, 1977

Dear Mr. Minister:

I attach the third Annual Report of the Ontario Provincial Parks Council for the period ending December 31, 1977.

The report contains a summary of our deliberations on the Preliminary Master Plans for Lake Superior and Quetico Provincial Parks, a statement of our thoughts on mining and tourism as they relate to Provincial Parks, our recommendations on visitor services and finance, and the results of our continuing discussions and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Algonquin Park Master Plan.

The Provincial Parks Council held public hearings in Toronto, Niagara Falls, Sault Ste. Marie, Wasaga Beach, Atikokan and Pembroke. A summary of how these hearings were conducted and the results considered is discussed. A list of all the individuals and organizations who made presentations is included for your information.

The Annual Report concludes with a tentative agenda for 1978 and a proposed list of concerns that the Council might examine in this current year and in 1979.

The Council looks forward to advising you on park matters in 1978.

Sincerely,

G. Priddle, Chairman.

### Acknowledgements

The Council is indebted to a great many people and organizations for making its work possible. It takes this opportunity to thank the Honorable Frank Miller, Minister of Natural Resources, for providing support and for showing a continuing interest in its work.

The personnel of the Provincial Parks Branch of the Ministry were and continue to be invaluable, not only in Toronto but also in the districts, regions and field sites Council visited in 1977: Niagara Falls, Sault Ste. Marie, Wasaga Beach, Quetico and Pembroke.

In the Toronto office Lloyd Eckel, Executive Coordinator, Outdoor Recreation, Ron Vrancart, the Director of Provincial Parks Branch, and our Coordinator, Don Hallman, provided indispensable assistance and encouragement. In the Council's office in Waterloo our secretary, Jean Fraser, continued "to keep it all together". Finally Council extends its thanks to the many individuals and organizations that came forward to express their views through correspondence or phone calls or at the public meetings. Without the active involvement of these people, the work of the Provincial Parks Council would have been in vain.



Provincial Parks Council Members at Niagara Falls

## The Provincial Parks Council

(Established under Section 6 of The Provincial Parks (Act))

### 1.1 Terms of Reference

1. To advise the Minister of Natural Resources in respect to the policy (planning, management and development) of the Provincial Parks System in relation to changing public needs;
2. To monitor and make recommendations on the implementation of the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan and such other park master plans as may be referred to it by the Minister;
3. To report to the Minister on such matters as he may refer to the Council;
4. In addition to such other reports the Council may make, it shall submit an Annual Report to the Minister;
5. The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, engage the advice and assistance of specialists or consultants;
6. The Council shall hold public meetings to receive briefs, at least annually, and at such other times as the Minister may direct.

### 1.2 Terms of Council

1. The Council shall consist of not more than twenty members appointed for one, two or three years and eligible for reappointment;\*
2. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be designated by the Minister
2. The Chairman and Members shall be paid a per diem allowance and expenses consistent with Government policy.

### 1.3 Members of Council

Kim Ball Box 115 Sprucedale, Ont. POA 1Y0	William Fowler R.R. #2, Branchton, Ont. NOB 1L0
Barbara Dundas 82 Beechnut Street, R.R. #3, Komoka, Ont. N6A 4B7	Robin Fraser 31 Rathnelly Avenue, Toronto, Ont., M4V 2M4

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Betty Worthington  
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\*Because of budgetary cutbacks Council found it necessary at the end of 1977 to cut back its membership to ten people. This was accomplished by several members voluntarily resigning followed by a vote of the membership.

In 1978 the Council will be composed of:

K. Ball  
W. Fowler  
F. Gray  
R. Howard, Vice Chairman  
C. Hunt  
G. Killan  
J. Lewis  
G. Priddle, Chairman  
N. Rouse  
T. Thompson.

## This Year's Program

### 2.1 The Minister's Work Program

The Minister charged the Council:

1. To complete deliberations on topics provided to Council for 1976;
2. To consider the relationship between Provincial Parks and tourism and the related matter of the non-resident use of parks;
3. To examine the financing of park programs; and
4. To review and recommend a policy for visitor services in Provincial Parks.

### 2.2 Meetings and Agenda Items

February 3, 4, 5 — Toronto

- Review of Second Annual Report
- Nature Reserves
- The Minister's Response to the First Annual Report
- Lake Superior Provincial Park Master Plan
- Algonquin Provincial Park
- Park Policy
- Public Meeting.

May 5, 6, 7 — Niagara Falls

- Visit to Short Hills Provincial Park and the Welland Canal
- Visit to the Niagara Parks Commission facilities
- Outboard Motors in Algonquin Provincial Park
- Nature Reserves
- Mining and Parks
- Public Meeting.

June 1, 2, 3, 4 — Sault Ste. Marie

- Visit to Lake Superior Provincial Park
- Lake Superior Provincial Park Master Plan
- Blackstone Harbour
- Algonquin Provincial Park
- Public Meeting.

July 14, 15, 16 — Wasaga Beach

- Discussion with the Minister
- Visit to Wasaga Beach Provincial Park
- Visitor Services
- Tourism
- Public Meeting
- Visit to Methodist Point and Saint-Marie-Among-the-Hurons.

September 28, 29, 30 and October 1 — Quetico

- Visit to Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park
- Visit to Shebandowan Mine
- Quetico Provincial Park Master Plan
- Quetico and the Thermal Generator at Atikokan
- Tourism
- Visitor Services
- Public Meeting
- Visit to the Lac La Croix Indian Reserve and Campbell's resort
- Visit to the Caland Mining operations.



Lake of the Woods from the Air

November 17, 18, 19 — Pembroke

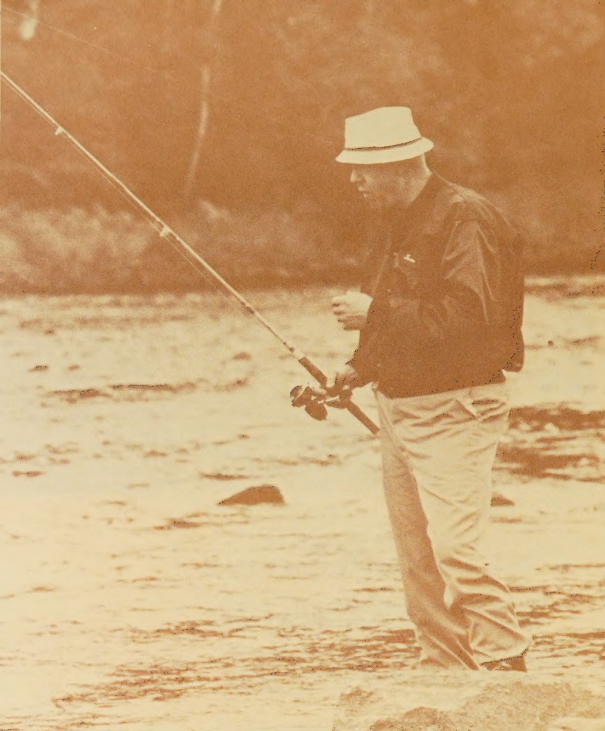
- Visit to the Madawaska River, Palmer Rapids area
- Visit to Algonquin logging operation with the Algonquin Forestry Authority's board of directors
- Mining
- Finance
- The Atikokan Generator
- Visitor Services
- Public Meeting.

### How the Parks Council Works

Council utilizes the committee structure to address a good many topics that it is asked to consider. The committee is responsible for gathering and tabling background material. Presentations are sometimes made by professionals solicited from both inside and outside the government. Position papers are written and responded to by the Council-of-the-whole. Particular park plans and park policy have been dealt with by a committee-of-the-whole. Some topics have been investigated by a single Council member who then reports to the total Council. As a result of this procedure, policy statements are drafted for inclusion in the Annual Report. Specific resolutions and recommendations are sent to the Minister as an integral part of the minutes after each meeting.

Public meetings are a vital aspect of the Council's work. At all but one meeting a year, Council has held public meetings. After the public meeting, Council reconvenes to consider any submissions it has received since the last public meeting. Results of Council's response to these submissions is sent to the Minister, again as part of the minutes after each meeting.

The Minister responds to matters in the minutes that require immediate attention and annually to the entire deliberations of Council after he has received the Annual Report.



Fishing, Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park

## Algonquin Provincial Park

### 4.1 Background Information

The Council continued to concern itself with the implementation of the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan. On February 3, 1977, Council discussed zoning and the motor boat issue. It was brought to Council's attention that the management plan for the Algonquin Forestry Authority would not be completed until 1980. This could create a problem inasmuch as the review of the Master Plan is to be in 1979. The snowmobile route along the Hydro right-of-way in the park was discussed and motor boat use of the park was reconsidered. On June 3, 1977, it was noted that the quota regulation had not been enforced during the May 24 weekend. As a result of this information and discussion, Council considered and passed a motion.

### 4.2 Resolutions by Council

Whereas:

- a) the Master Plan provides that motor boats be phased out;
- b) the Master Plan was to be implemented for five years to 1979 and then reviewed;

- c) Ontario regulation 696, Sec.28(1), 28(2), 29(17), passed in 1975 restricts motor boats to 27 leaseholder lakes and limits motors to 10 horsepower on 11 of those lakes;
  - d) Council understands that this regulation 696 Sec.28(1), 28(2), 29(17), has never been enforced and is not confident that it will be enforced;
  - e) Council disagrees with the regulations being passed and not enforced and believes that a review of the Master Plan in this regard is impossible without policy being implemented;
  - f) Council is aware of opposing views on the question but believes there would be less conflict between canoeists and motor boats in the spring and fall;
- Therefore, Council recommends to the Minister that the said regulations be revoked and a new regulation be passed and enforced effective not later than 1978 to the following effect:

- 1) Motor boats be banned except on the 27 lakes set out in the present regulation and the following further lakes: Dickson, Lavielle, Big Crow, Proulx, Hogan, Lake La Muir and White Partridge;
  - 2) Motor boats be banned on such further lakes during July and August;
  - 3) Motors be limited to six horsepower on such further lakes and the 11 lakes set out in the present regulation.
- Agreed — 10  
Opposed — 6  
Abstention — 1.

### 4.3 Recommendations:

Council's primary consideration, related to Algonquin Provincial Park in 1977, dealt with the motor boat issue. Three recommendations were made:

- 1) Motor boats be banned except on the 27 lakes set out in the present regulation and the following further lakes: Dickson, Lavielle, Big Crow, Proulx, Hogan, Lake La Muir and White Partridge;
- 2) Motor boats be banned on such further lakes during July and August;
- 3) Motors be limited to six horsepower on such further lakes and the 11 lakes set out in the present regulation.

## Lake Superior Provincial Park

### 5.1 Background Information

The Lake Superior Provincial Park Preliminary Master Plan was released shortly after Council's visit to Sault Ste. Marie in early June. Ministry staff had kept the Council abreast of the Plan's development over the past year and had briefed Council on the history of the planning process for Lake Superior Provincial Park. At the public meeting in the 'Sault' a number of people and interest groups spoke on matters and issues related to Lake Superior Provincial Park. Council has also received a number of written submissions on Lake Superior.

Lake Superior Provincial Park is classified as a Natural Environment Park. It is however, like Algonquin, an anomaly to that particular classification insofar as logging is regarded as one of the primary purposes of both parks.

The Lake Superior Provincial Park Master Plan provides for a resource-utilization zone and resource utilization is defined as one objective for the park. While a natural environment park does not rule out commercial logging, logging should be regarded as a secondary benefit resulting from a needed treatment to the park environment rather than a primary use.

The Provincial Parks Council expressed much concern that a high percentage of the land in the W-1 wilderness zone will continue to be logged until March 31, 1979. This has already resulted in very large equipment being used in the forest on a year-round basis. Considerable destruction to the landscape, in the form of severe damage to the remaining vegetation and erosion, is the consequence. Council questions whether such a heavily impacted area will ever be able to serve as an effective wilderness.

Council notes that intensive logging is taking place in the park before a detailed forest management plan has been drafted. Certainly it would seem that such a management plan should be an integral part of the preliminary master plan. It is also felt by Council that Forest Management Plans should, particularly in parkland areas, undergo the environmental assessment process. Forest management plans that affect land in the parks should definitely be open to public scrutiny.

Council also expressed its doubts about the possibility of preserving nature reserves where they are surrounded by extensive areas zoned for resource utilization. In most cases it has not been possible, because of time and budgetary constraints, to carefully delineate these nature reserves on the ground.



Moose Swimming

Council feels that a Lake Superior Forest Authority, on the model of the Algonquin Forestry Authority, should be established for Lake Superior Provincial Park. Council is also concerned about the lack of co-ordination in the planning for Lake Superior between the parks, fish and wildlife and timber branches in the Ministry. It would seem that little or no input is received by parks from the fish and wildlife and timber branches until the plan is circulated internally for review.

In terms of the recreational use of the park, Council is of the opinion that outboard motors of not greater than six horsepower should be allowed on Sand Lake to be consistent with planning in other parks. Council also feels that there are not enough 'harbours of refuge' along the coastal zone. The whole question of access to the park from the waters of Lake Superior is ignored. Council agrees with the concept that coastal parkland should have 'harbours of refuge'. These facilities would have limited development: navigational aids where necessary, and possibly mooring pins where there failed to be good 'holding ground'.

As far as hunting is concerned, Council is of mixed opinion as to whether moose hunting should take place in the park. However, there was general agreement that grouse and hare hunting should not be allowed.

Council decided that roads that were accessible to cars could also be used by snowmobiles. There is a need for all large parks to have a consistent policy on the use of cans and bottles in their interiors. In terms of development Council recommends that Beaver Rock Lodge should be preserved and developed as an interpretive centre. It was also decided that, for reasons of safety, there should be some form of gas service along Highway 17 in the park throughout the year. In regards to Gargantua Harbour, Council felt that privileges to the harbour should not be limited to fishermen. The Plan's suggestion that commercial fishermen could drive in, but everyone else would have to walk the last two miles, made little sense. There may, in light of the apparent "poor state of the art" in fisheries management in the park, be a case for restricting Gargantua Harbour to simply a "harbour of refuge".

On the matter of the park's zoning, Council had a number of criticisms:

*Wilderness:* The wilderness zones (W-1, W-2) abut immediately on Highway 17. Areas adjoining major highways are not perceived as wilderness by wilderness users. The area immediately along the highway would seem to be an access zone by definition.

*Coastal Zone:* Council questioned the desirability of zoning everything offshore as access. In many places people could not reach either the water from the land or the land from the water. It is Council's feeling that a good deal of thought should be given to the area immediately offshore in the next stage of the master planning process.

*Nature Reserves:* Council is concerned about the number of nature reserves that seem to be 'floating in a sea of logging'. Little is being done to identify these reserves on the ground.

*Historical Zones:* Council was disappointed that the historical systems plan had not apparently been more fully utilized. If it had, Beaver Rock and Agawa Lodge may well have been zoned as historical. Council is confused as to why some of the archaeological sites have been placed in nature reserve zones rather than in historical zones.

## 5.2 Resolutions by Council

As a result of Council's deliberations on Lake Superior Provincial Park, the following motion was passed:

### *Lake Superior Provincial Park*

Whereas the Council is concerned that the Park Planning process should be as open to public participation as possible, and should be seen to be open,

and that the Lake Superior Provincial Park Master Plan has been delayed in a manner that could create doubt in the public's mind,

and although this Council recognizes the difficulties associated with the release of the Lake Superior Provincial Park Master Plan, and the need to clarify conditions associated with the timber harvesting activities in the park, be it

resolved that this Council urges the Minister to avoid situations that could create the impression that special interest groups are receiving privileged treatment, and maintain as open an approach as possible.

Agreed — 15  
Opposed — 1.

## 5.3 Recommendations:

In summary Council's recommendations for the Lake Superior Provincial Park Plan are:

i) Commercial logging, or resource utilization, should eventually be banned from the park as a primary objective;

- ii) Commercial logging could continue indefinitely in the park where it is a secondary benefit from some other needed treatment to the park environment;
- iii) The logging of the Wilderness-1 zone should not be allowed to continue until there is an approved and detailed forest management plan;
- iv) Forest management plans should undergo the environmental assessment process, particularly in sensitive and parkland areas;
- v) Forest management plans that affect land under The Provincial Parks Act should definitely be open to public scrutiny;
- vi) Council is concerned about the viability of nature reserves when they are surrounded by large acreages of land zoned for resource utilization;
- vii) A Lake Superior Forest Authority, on the model of the Algonquin Forestry Authority, should be established;
- viii) There needs to be more co-ordination and consultation between the branches of the Ministry;
- ix) Outboard motors of no greater than six horsepower should be allowed on Sand Lake;
- x) There are not enough 'harbours of refuge' in the park;
- xi) Moose hunting should be allowed;
- xii) Grouse and hare hunting should not be allowed;
- xiii) Roads accessible to cars should be accessible to snowmobiles;
- xiv) There should be a consistent policy on the uses of cans and bottles in large provincial parks;
- xv) Some form of gas station is needed in the park along Highway 17 throughout the year;
- xvi) Fishermen should not have special privileges in Gargantua Harbour;
- xvii) A Fish Management Plan should be developed for the park as soon as possible.
- xviii) With regards to zoning Council stated:
  - a) Wilderness zones should not abut large highways. The area along the highway should be zoned 'access'.
  - b) More thought needs to be given to coastal zone management when the plan is revised or reviewed.
  - c) The nature reserves should be clearly marked on the ground and carefully policed.
  - d) Historical planning should be done systematically in park master planning.

## Quetico Provincial Park Master Plan

### 6.1 Background Information

Four major areas of consideration emerged as a result of our deliberations on Quetico Provincial Park:

- a) The possible impact on the park of the proposed thermal generator at Marmion Lake near Atikokan;
  - b) The Lac La Croix Indians' use and the general public's use of outboard motors in the park;
  - c) Zoning in the 'aster Plan';
  - d) The fees and management for the park in the future.
- a) The question of the impact on the park of the proposed thermal generator at Marmion Lake, to be built and operated by Ontario Hydro near Atikokan, is of real concern. Council had an opportunity to review and question the environmental impact statement prepared by Ontario Hydro on the project. Council also reviewed a number of other studies and position papers on the matter that have been done both in Canada and the United States by government and concerned individuals and citizen groups.
- b) The Lac La Croix Indians use and the public use of outboard motors in Quetico Provincial Park. The Master Plan suggests that all outboard motors should be banned from the park. Council agreed that outboard motors should be allowed on peripheral lakes and on lakes up to the first portage for a five-year period commencing with the adoption of the Master Plan. During this five-year period, additional research and consideration should be given to the ways and means of improving employment opportunities for the native people of the Lac La Croix reservation. The existence of a local federal-provincial committee known as the "Community-Employment Strategy Committee" was brought to the attention of Council. Certainly the problems of the Lac La Croix Indians should be brought to the attention of this committee. This concession to the use of outboard motors is seen as really allowing a non-conforming use that will be definitely phased out in the future.
- c) Zoning. – Council was surprised that the plan for Quetico was labelled as a master plan rather than a preliminary master plan. Concern was expressed by the majority of Council that nature reserves and historical zones were not utilized in the master plan. If there is not enough known about the natural history of the park to establish the need for nature reserves, this should be stated. In light of the effective interpretive work that has been done in the park, it would seem highly unlikely that there is not a good deal known about the park environment. Nature reserve zones should be established where areas of particular natural interest exist. This serves an interpretive function for the visitor and, more particularly in this case, for the reader of the master plan. Such designation could well, under many situations, draw attention to the need for particular management practices.

Certainly, historical zoning would seem most appropriate in Quetico Provincial Park for the Boundary Waters Fur Trade Route and the Kaministiquia River Fur Trade Route (later the Dawson Trail). Historical zoning serves an interpretive function as well as highlighting the need for particular management practices. Concern and disappointment was again expressed by Council that the systems approach to Ontario history had not been utilized in master planning the park.

Council felt that the access zones should be more than "doorways into the park". It was felt that these zones should be of larger area and provide more in the way of facilities — campgrounds for example are deemed to be an appropriate facility within at least some of the northern access zones. The Master Plan uses zoning with a lack of consideration for the park classification and zoning system. The result is a plan that considers the park more in a regional than a provincial context.

d) Fees and Management. – Council agreed that there should not be a differential rate structure for American users of the park. It was felt that ice fishing should be prohibited until an adequate fish management plan was developed for the park. Everyone agreed there was a need for a more effective enforcement of regulations in the park. It was felt unanimously that a training program for resident guides should be initiated immediately — this could be initiated through the Community-Employment Strategy Committee.

Such a program should train the native people to be able to guide and work in the park in a manner that would of course be sympathetic with the intent of the Master Plan.

### 6.2 Resolutions by Council

As a result of Council's deliberations on the Quetico Provincial Park Master Plan, the following motion was passed and sent to the Minister:

The proposed Ontario Hydro Thermal generator to be built at Marmion Lake near Atikokan should not be built until:

1. The project, formerly exempted from The Environmental Assessment Act, should undergo an environmental assessment under The Environmental Assessment Act of the Province. The visual impact on the park of the stack(s) that will be associated with the generator should be considered in the assessment.

2. If the project goes ahead:

- a) The Ontario Ministry of the Environment and/or the International Joint Commission should be given the responsibility of monitoring and publicly reporting on the impact on the park and the surrounding area of air pollution from all sources.
- b) A control mechanism should be in place to anticipate and to prevent the cumulative effect of air pollution, regardless of its sources, from being detrimental to the park as a wilderness area.

Agreed — Unanimously.

### 6.3 Recommendations

In conclusion Council's recommendations on the Quetico Provincial Park Master Plan are as follows:

- i) Outboard motors should be allowed on peripheral lakes and on lakes up to the first portage for a five-year period;
- ii) Serious consideration should be given to how employment opportunities for the people of the Lac La Croix Reserve can be improved;
- iii) The Master Plan should be considered a Preliminary Master Plan;
- iv) Nature reserve zoning and historical zoning should be utilized in the Plan;
- v) The systems approach to Ontario history should be utilized in master-planning the park;
- vi) The access zones should be larger and provide more facilities;
- vii) There should not be a differential fee structure for Americans and Canadians utilizing the park;
- viii) Ice fishing should be prohibited until there is an adequate fisheries management plan for the park;
- ix) Park regulations are in need of better enforcement;
- x) A training program for resident guides should be initiated immediately;
- xi) The proposed thermal generator for Marmion Lake should undergo an environmental assessment;
- xii) If the generator is built:
  - a) the International Joint Commission and/or the Ministry of the Environment should be given the responsibility of monitoring and publicly reporting on the environmental impacts of the generator;
  - b) A control mechanism should be established to anticipate and prevent the cumulative effect of air pollution from all sources from being detrimental to the park as a wilderness area.



Great Blue Heron

### Mining

#### 7.1 Background Information

Council had been charged early in February of 1976 with considering a "Mineral Policy for Provincial Parks". The Council did not complete its deliberations on this issue in 1976.

Mining policy for parks in British Columbia and Alberta has been considered. Council received presentations by personnel from both the Division of Mines and the Division of Parks of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Professor A. G. McLellan of the University of Waterloo spoke to Council about land reclamation and Professor John Marsh of Trent University spoke on the history of mining and mining policy in National Parks. In 1977 Council had an opportunity to visit Shebandowan nickel mine and Caland iron mine in northwestern Ontario.

A detailed questionnaire was developed to solicit Council members' opinions on mining and exploration within different types of parks and within different zones within parks. A mineral resources policy was drafted as a result of this exercise. Council's response was then solicited and it was agreed that mining should not be allowed in Provincial Parks.

It was felt that land currently dedicated to parks represents such a small percentage of the total lands of the province that it is impossible to construe it as a threat to the mining industry. The whole issue of mining and parks re-emphasizes the need for The Provincial Parks Act to be rewritten to allow for the legal establishment of park boundaries and zones.

A clearly defined procedure should be outlined for determining how a Division of Mines concern for an area that is being considered as a park reserve is to be accommodated.

The implications of this policy for the Missinaibi River park reserve is that 'discreet drilling' should be done in the area of the Missinaibi lignite deposit before the actual boundaries of the park are determined. Mining should not be allowed in the area set aside as a park.

In southern Ontario the extraction of gravel may be allowed in some existing or proposed parks if there is full assurance that the development will result in a better park — for example, a park with a better potential for water-based recreation. By the same token, areas that are now abandoned or derelict could be developed for recreational parks in the future.

It could well behoove the Division of Parks to become involved in such enterprises — not necessarily by creating additional Provincial Parks but through The Parks Assistance Act and through an expanded extension service as recommended by Council in 1976 when discussing 'Parks and the Private Sector'.

## 7.2 Resolutions by Council

At Council's last meeting of 1977 in Pembroke the following motion was passed:

Mining should not be allowed in Provincial Parks.

Agreed — 12  
Opposed — 2.

## 7.3 Recommendations

As a result of Council's deliberations on mining the following recommendations were made:

- i) Mining should not be allowed in Provincial Parks.
- ii) The Provincial Parks Act should be rewritten to allow for the legal establishment of park boundaries and zones.
- iii) A clearly defined procedure should be established to determine how a Division of Mines concern for an area that is being considered for parkland can be accommodated.
- iv) 'Discreet drilling' should be allowed in the area of the Missinaibi lignite deposit before the actual boundaries of the park are determined.
- v) Gravel extraction might be allowed in southern Ontario parkland if there was full assurance that such action would result in a better park.

## Provincial Park Policy

### 8.1 Background Information

A primary concern for Council over the past three years has been the evolution of a parks policy. There is now a draft policy document which has evolved out of the revised park classification system that Council considered in 1975. In 1976 Council reviewed and commented upon a paper entitled *A Provincial Parks Policy for Ontario — Preliminary Draft*. In 1977 Council pressed for the adoption of the policy.

### 8.2 Resolutions

As a result of Council's continuing interest in the adoption of a parks policy, the following motion was passed on February 3, 1977:

Whereas the Provincial Parks Council has reviewed in detail and endorsed the proposed park classification scheme and the Proposed Parks Policy;

and whereas the Council identified implementation of such a Parks Policy as its first priority for 1976;

and the Council feels that the Parks Policy is an important statement defining the goals and objectives of the Provincial Parks System, requiring little further revision, and therefore should be made immediately available for public scrutiny;

Council therefore recommends that the Minister of Natural Resources immediately obtain internal Governmental approvals of the proposed Parks Policy, make the Policy available to the public immediately thereafter, and implement the Policy through the adoption of appropriate planning and management guidelines and the development of implementation strategies and programs.

Agreed — Unanimously.

### 8.3 Recommendations

The following recommendations summarize Council's expression on parks policy in 1977:

- 1) The Provincial Parks Policy should become official government policy and be implemented as soon as possible.
- 2) The Provincial Parks Policy should be made available for public scrutiny as soon as possible.



Kenny Lake, Lake Superior Provincial Park

## Tourism

### 9.1 Background Information

The Minister directed the Council to consider the relationship between Provincial Parks and tourism and the related matter of non-resident use of parks. Council considered a number of documents related to tourism; these documents had their origin within the Ministry and with the councillors, themselves. Representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Tourism spoke to the Council about their long-range planning for tourism.

By mid-year, a number of questions and issues had been identified. A questionnaire was prepared and distributed from the Council office.

### 9.2 Recommendations

The following recommendations resulted from Council's deliberations on the topic of tourism.

- i) Provincial Parks should be promoted as tourist attractions consistent with the tourism objective in the Provincial Parks Policy.
- ii) Large facilities, like Minaki Lodge, should not be included within the Park System.
- iii) Parks should extend their season of operation where it can be demonstrated that it will make private tourist operations more successful.
- iv) Parks should assist private operators through technical and consultative support services related to the development and management of facilities.
- v) Parks could assist in more comprehensive recreational and tourism planning by:
  - a) Working through local councils;
  - b) Working more closely with Industry and Tourism;
  - c) Better liaison with other government agencies and the private sector.
- vi) It was agreed non-residents should pay the same park entrance fee as residents.

vii) Much greater co-operation is needed between tourist authorities, Provincial Parks, wildlife authorities and National Parks on the planning of sites and the construction of hotels and related facilities.

viii) Tourist authorities should actively contribute to the efforts made by conservation groups in the preparation of guidelines for tourist groups in natural areas, the adoption of a code of ethics, and other forms of bringing the right message to the 'consumers'.

ix) Support should be provided to make tours, and other tourist services connected with natural areas, available to schools, university students and similar groups at specially reduced rates.

x) The tourist industry should assist in the establishment and maintenance of interpretation and information centres related to parks and other natural areas. It is the initial effort and the training of the necessary personnel which are needed most urgently at present.

xi) Tourist authorities might assist in preparing and editing publications that explain the natural resources and their attributes to the general public. These should help tourists to understand the ecological functioning of parks, the reasons why zoning and long-term planning are essential and why some areas must be closed to the public.

xii) Tourism can play a role in supporting education and training activities that deal with the tourism-conservation relationship. For example, courses might be offered for the guides who take tourists to particular areas, and also for wardens and park personnel connected with tourist activities. Many schools for park administrators are desperately in need of such support.

## 10.1 Background Information

As noted in the 1976 Annual Report of the Ontario Provincial Parks Council, the Minister charged the Council with addressing the topic of financing of park programs. This was to include the investigation and recommendations regarding alternative methods of financing park programs and the implementation of such alternatives.

Council considered several documents on the general topic of financing. These included a draft policy statement from the Ministry, general background documents outlining the situation in other jurisdictions, and researched notes from the councillors themselves. Some of the pertinent information from these various documents is included here as background information.

In terms of financing land acquisition for parkland in Ontario, many alternatives exist and some of them are being used by some agencies. The list of alternatives includes the following:

1. *Fee Simple* — Direct purchase of private property from a landowner is the most common method of land acquisition. In certain cases government may acquire property by means of expropriation, with the purchase price being based on fair market value if the landowner is unwilling to sell the property directly.
2. *Transfer* — Parkland may be acquired by transferring or exchanging properties within and between governments (e.g. crown lands, Ontario Hydro and federal National Defence surplus lands).
3. *Leasing* — Long-term leasing arrangements are sometimes used to make land available for park use. These are best applied between government agencies (e.g. Ontario Hydro) or ministries. The temporary nature of the lease may pose a special risk when the arrangement is with a private owner.
4. *Restrictive Zoning* — Lands can be acquired through regulatory means, such as development and natural resource zoning which today are exercised almost exclusively by local governments. An exception would be the use of interim development control regulations by the Niagara Escarpment Commission.
5. *Landowner Agreements* — Management agreements can be negotiated with landowners to allow public access and use for outdoor recreation purposes provided certain conditions are fulfilled by the government agency which is responsible for managing the land.
6. *Special Designation* — This alternative involves giving special recognition to landowners who allow their properties to be designated as provincially significant sites. Recognition might involve certificates issued by the Premier or the government, the publication of landowners' names, signage or a variety of other possibilities. As a condition of the special recognition, landowners would agree to manage their holdings in a specific way and/or allow public access.

7. *Patent Rights* — The Crown has reserved rights-of-way for access purposes on deeds to lakeshore properties within the Province. These reservations may be exercised by the Crown. Similarly, by statute, the government could attempt to alter the landowner rights that accrue from fee simple ownership. Cities provide many examples of recent adjustments to ownership rights.
8. *Option* — Options are legally binding agreements designed only to facilitate the purchase of properties at a predetermined price for a fixed period of time. Generally, the landowner is paid a sum of money in return for entering into an option.
9. *Legislation* — Legislation could be enacted to accomplish a variety of ends. For example, the establishment of a Provincial Parks Foundation by legislation may make more capital available for park development.
10. *Tax Incentive* — This alternative would permit landowners to claim property tax exemptions or rebates in return for meeting certain conditions. Such conditions might include permitting public access or maintaining properties in their natural state. Currently, such exemptions are available to owners of registered managed woodlots.
11. *Dedication* — A municipality may require a land developer/subdivider to set aside up to five per cent of the land proposed for development or accept cash payment in lieu of the conveyance for public park purposes.
12. *Private Organizations* — Non-profit private organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Sierra Club, as well as other foundations, trusts, etc., can be encouraged to accept or purchase lands for lease or donation to the government.
13. *Outright Donation* — An outright donation is the simplest and most common method of giving land. Generally, it will result in the greatest tax benefits to the donor as well as allow the government considerable freedom with respect to the use of the land. This type of transaction could include a lease back arrangement with the donor. In legal terms an outright donation is called a conveyance in fee simple title, which means that all rights to the property are transferred to the government.
14. *Life Estate* — Reserving a life estate consists of an outright donation or sale of land which permits the donor to retain the right to live on the property for the rest of his or her life and possibly the lifetime of other family members.
15. *Testamentary Gifts* — Methods are available by which a donor's wishes for a parcel of land can be carried out after his or her death. An individual who chooses to will his or her property to the government may reduce estate and succession taxes considerably and keep the land in his or her ownership for a lifetime.

16. *Bargain Sale* — The landowner who wants to have his or her land protected but for some reason cannot afford a complete donation may wish to consider a bargain sale. A bargain sale is a sale of property offered at a price that is less than its fair market value. This results in a part-sale and part-charitable contribution. The amount deductible for income tax purposes is the difference between the fair market value of the property and the actual sale price.
17. *Conservation or Scenic Easements* — This involves the acquisition or donation of limited rights to a tract of land. Easements usually refer to the acquisition of the landowner's right to develop or alter the natural character of all or part of his or her land.
18. *Purchase and Leaseback* — This represents an acquisition of land by purchase or gift and subsequent leasing to a person or persons for a specific purpose.

At the present time three major organizations or groups in Ontario have programs that draw on non-government funds (in part or wholly) for the acquisition of areas that are "provincially significant elements of the natural and cultural landscape" (Conservation Objective). These are:

1. The Ontario Heritage Foundation
2. The Nature Conservancy
3. Naturalist and (to a lesser extent) Fish and Wildlife groups.

#### 1. The Ontario Heritage Foundation

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is a Provincial government agency that can acquire, through its Trust program, "gifts... of heritage buildings, scenic lands and other cultural properties". "The Foundation may also make agreements, which are known as preservation easements or covenants, with the owners of heritage properties. These agreements require the approval of the Foundation for changes to the property."

Because gifts to the Foundation are considered gifts to the Crown, the value of the gift can be deducted by the donor from total net income in the current year on calculating taxable income. This is a very significant tax advantage for corporations or individuals in higher tax brackets and provides a major incentive to landowners to donate.

Lands so acquired by the Foundation are then leased to a suitable authority, usually a Conservation Authority, for management under a lease that places strict conditions on the kind of management that can be undertaken.

The Foundation seeks to accommodate the wishes of its donors, and these could include, for example, lifetime occupancy of a building on a donated area of land.

The potential of the preservation easement provision is only beginning to be exploited. Its importance stems from the fact that it may only be necessary to perpetuate the *existing* management of an important natural area to assure its preservation. An owner who is already managing his land in a particular way may be very willing to sell some of his management rights provided that the character of his land would remain the same. He would agree with the Foundation to leave his property unchanged, and could in effect be paid for formally agreeing to do what he wished to do in the first place. The agreement would then be binding on subsequent owners of the property, and the land protected in this manner. In many cases purchase of easements could be considerably less expensive than outright purchase of the property.

It is unlikely that the Foundation would see itself as actually purchasing easement. It might, however, be an agent through which the Ministry could purchase easements. These might permit limited public access, but their role would be more suited to the protection of natural areas and areas of outstanding scenic beauty.

#### 2. The Nature Conservancy of Canada

The Nature Conservancy is a non-profit association governed by a board of trustees, and its resources are "solely devoted to the preservation of ecologically and environmentally significant land". It raises money through donations from individuals and organizations and uses its funds to buy land — sometimes in conjunction with other groups or agencies.

The Conservancy has a small staff whose activities are concerned both with raising funds and with identifying suitable areas and negotiating their purchase.

The Conservancy lands in Ontario are usually managed in a manner analogous to Ontario Heritage Foundation properties. A suitable agency, such as the Ministry of Natural Resources, assumes responsibility for management of the areas under conditions specified by the Conservancy.

Lands purchased by the Nature Conservancy fill a Nature Reserve function and in fact may become Provincial Nature Reserves. The Conservancy can supplement the Provincial Nature Reserves acquisition program, but its resources are far too limited to do more than this. It can, however, play a very important role in three ways:

1. It can move quickly to obtain an endangered area.
2. It may be able to negotiate a more flexible kind of arrangement with a landowner than government could.
3. It can draw on volunteer support and expertise, and hence may be able to accomplish proportionately more than a department of government could.

### 3. Other Groups

A number of naturalist groups, both Provincial and local, have purchased Nature Reserves. Very many fish and game clubs have also acquired "reserves" which they manage in a variety of ways. Most of the latter do not have a clear nature reserve function, but do have amenity value and add to the "stock" of quasi-public recreational lands in the Province. In the case of marshes in particular, the sale of hunting rights can be the difference between the landowner's decision to drain or leave an "unproductive" marsh.

Naturalist-group Nature Reserves range from areas, acquired and managed with a specific nature reserve function in mind, to lands that are managed rather unsystematically for maximum diversity and which may be similar in quality to fish and game club reserves.

These lands are usually acquired through a fund-raising drive among group members, but their character, management and ownership details are otherwise so diverse that not much more can be said about them.

It is apparent that increasing demands on our natural resources are making it difficult to preserve open space for Provincial Park purposes. At the same time the problem is further compounded by budget constraints on public funding. Accordingly there is a need to develop and try new ways to preserve open space for Provincial Parks while saving on public expenditures.

One way of saving costs is to encourage private donations of real and personal property (i.e. land, money, equipment, etc.) for the acquisition, development and management of Provincial Parks. In the past, there have been several examples of such contributions, but the private donor has always provided the initial action. The main reason charitable donations are not more common appears to be that public officials are not actively engaged in seeking contributions from private corporations, foundations, special interest groups, individuals and a variety of other private interests. Furthermore, there is generally a lack of awareness of the techniques and benefits available to private organizations and individuals who may make donations for Provincial Park purposes.

Private donations by public-spirited citizens, who wish to ensure the protection of outdoor recreation resources, are invaluable. Private interests may be motivated to contribute for a variety of reasons such as personal commitment to preserving our natural/cultural heritage, favorable public relations, public recognition, and financial incentives, especially tax benefits.

Tax laws encourage individuals and corporations to donate private resources for public use. Donations of cash or other property to a government body are deductible for income tax purposes.



Provincial Parks Council Members, Lake Superior Provincial Park

If the donor contributes to a Crown agency, such as a foundation, the gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the donor's income and may be spread over two years. Under present law, such donations would be further exempt from federal estate taxes and provincial succession duties. Tax benefits are also made available to the donor by completing the transaction under The Provincial Parks Act (Section 9-1) and The Financial Administration Act (Section 15-1)(2).

Private donations for the acquisition, development or management of land and water can be made in other ways. A prospective donor may wish to consider (for example) making fully deductible donations of cash, stocks, bonds, developed real estate or other property. Government could solicit and accept gifts of property which are not significant for their recreation or preservation value, sell the land on the open market, and apply the proceeds for Provincial Park purposes. In this case, the donor makes a contribution to resource preservation, receives an income tax deduction, and avoids all capital gains tax as well as the real estate sales commission.

The most common reason that public outdoor recreation has not received more consideration from private individuals and organizations is that the idea of giving has not occurred to them. A primary need now is to make sure the idea does occur to potential donors and that they are fully aware of all of the benefits to be derived from supporting and contributing to the acquisition, development and management of Provincial Parks.

An active program for encouraging private donations would appear to require minimal training of existing parks staff and a modest promotional budget. Staff members could be trained to provide potential donors with technical assistance on the various techniques and financial advantages of making donations. The technical advice would be based on past case study experiences as well as newly developed or expanded tools and techniques. Staff training would also emphasize how to identify and approach prospective contributors and present attractive proposals. This would not include the authority to negotiate which would remain the responsibility of the Ministry of Government Services.

The staff should be trained to advise the donor in all cases to obtain legal counsel for advice. The pursuit of donations would need to be supported by promotional material. A simply designed but factual brochure would be a top priority to inform private individuals and organizations of the growing need for private contributions and the wide range of effective ways of giving donations. An audio-visual program would also be desirable to complement presentations given to potential donors.

Based on the above background information and additional documentation on the topic of financing, a questionnaire was developed for Council. The results were reviewed and discussed and, in turn, several recommendations were developed.

## 10.2 Recommendations

1. That the Ministry consider establishing an active program for encouraging private donations of real and personal property for the acquisition, development and management of Provincial Parks.
2. That to implement the new program:
  - a) A promotional campaign be planned of which the top priority would be the publishing of a simply-designed but factual brochure to inform private individuals and organizations of the growing need for private contributions and the wide range of effective ways of giving donations.
  - b) Existing park staff be trained to provide technical assistance to potential donors on the various techniques and financial advantages of making donations.
3. It is recognized that the above recommendations provide a basic-level program, i.e. using existing staff and a minimal promotion budget. However, consideration should be given to establishing a new organizational structure to administer this program.

One possible approach could be the creation of a high-profile "Ontario Provincial Parks Foundation" which would function as a Crown Agency to stimulate financial support for the acquisition, development and management of Provincial Parks. The Foundation would operate under the direction of a chairman and board of directors consisting of influential public-spirited citizens from a cross-section of business and professional communities. The administrative affairs of the Foundation would be conducted by an executive director and other necessary staff members.

## Visitor Services

### 11.1 Background Information

Council was directed to consider education and visitor services programs in Provincial Parks. An interim policy for visitors services had been drafted by Ministry staff and it was considered by Council. A regional visitor services plan was studied and the Council committee responsible for visitor services tabled and reviewed basic philosophies and approaches to visitor services and outdoor education.

The Visitor Services Interim Policy developed by the Visitor Services Section of the Ministry of Natural Resources outlines a series of policy statements which are intended to guide the visitor services program and its implementation in the present and near future.

Four main objectives are cited in the document:

- i) To provide a public communications program in the park system;
- ii) To provide interpretive facilities and programs;
- iii) To provide recreational facilities and activities, particularly programs orienting visitors to outdoor skills; and
- iv) To aid organized school groups in making optimum use of the park system for outdoor education.

Priorities as outlined include the following:

- a) A high-quality public communication service and appropriate self-use recreational/interpretive facilities in virtually all parks referred to as Basic Services.
- b) Parks containing provincially significant and representative natural and/or historical features will provide staff-organized interpretive activities, as well as the basic services described in a) above. The visitor to these selected parks throughout the Province should be offered programming which effectively communicates the story of the distinctive resources preserved in these various parks and their relation to the Province as a whole. These implicit linkages between park stories will be emphasized through the use of the Provincial Interpretive Theme which composes one aspect of what is referred to as Nodal Programs. Certain high-profile parks in each of the eight regions will carry a level of service designated as "Major" (implying permanent staff, year-round programming, and major facilities). Less critical parks in each region will carry "seasonal" services (implying a casual staff with limited facilities).



Fish Fry, Lac La Croix

- c) The implementation of this phase of the Visitor Services Program would be similar to b) above except that it will provide visitors with opportunities to take part in staff-organized activities designed to introduce them to new outdoor skills or sharpen their existing skills. These programs will be organized throughout the park system in accordance with Experience Themes which compose the other dimension of what is referred to as Nodal Programs. Once again, the level of services provided in the various parks of a particular park region will be established on a "Major" or "Seasonal" basis which, in itself, is related obviously to funding standards.

#### *Regional Visitor Service Plans*

Guided by the policies and priorities set by the Interim Policy document above, each region has been charged with the responsibility of developing a Regional Visitor Services Plan. This task is nearly completed and when finished will form the basis for an Action Plan. Essentially, in each region parks have been designated as either "Nodes (major level of service re: interpretive and recreational programs) or "Satellites" (seasonal level of service). Many Satellite parks will draw on a portable-type of service emanating from the Nodal park.

This M.N.R. program recognizes the current problems related to funding and staffing and therefore emphasizes visitor services resources be concentrated in a few well chosen parks.

## 11.2 Recommendations

The two major problems prohibiting the advancement of visitor services programs are staffing and funding. The Council therefore makes the following recommendations:

Staffing is obviously tied to financial difficulties in the sense that very few field staff can be retained on a permanent basis for visitor services purposes. The present low level of year-round staff cannot properly select, train, supervise and audit the complement or seasonal staff well enough to ensure consistent high-quality programming. Aside from the funding deficiencies which have plagued staffing, very little attention has been directed toward the recruitment and training of both permanent and seasonal staff. Therefore:

- 1) Without handicapping the flexibility required of any field-controlled budget, some earmarking or pro rata system of designating both capital and operating funds for visitor services must be established.
- 2) Privatization, under licence to operate, is one obvious way of alleviating both the funding problem (user pays for special experience) and staffing requirements, particularly in the areas of interpretive and recreational programming. Recruitment and training are also entirely possible through certain well qualified conservation, wildlife, fish and game, and outdoor education/recreation agencies. It seems ludicrous not to tap and mobilize this kind of expertise in the management of our parks;
- 3) Solicitation of funds for outdoor recreational and educational purposes receives close attention in the Wintario grant organization. School systems, and other public and private groups, with a view to using provincial park resources in their outdoor schemes, should be encouraged and aided in their proposals to this end;



Kakabeka Falls by Lucius O'Brien (Picturesque Canada, 1882)

- 4) The matter of dual appointments between governmental ministries, or between the public and private sectors, might be addressed. On the surface at least, there would appear to be no reasons why a person could not serve, as an outdoor consultant with the Ministry of Education or of Culture and Recreation for part of the year, and during the summer act in the capacity of a park naturalist — an M.N.R. employee;
- 5) Council would like to continue its investigation into visitor services. Several avenues of investigation suggest themselves; for example, a comparative analysis of other jurisdictions and a further exploration of co-operative efforts with outdoor educators.

## Nature Reserves

### 12.1 Background Information

Council established a Nature Reserve Committee. It was felt that this aspect of the park program was in need of further consideration. Matters considered were the adequacy of the over-all natural area conservation effort in the Province, the need for monitoring existing programs, and the adequacy of the existing data base. The adequacy of current legislation and institutional arrangements to accomplish needed natural area conservation was discussed.

### 12.2 Resolutions of Council

As a result of Council's deliberations on Nature Reserves, four motions were passed.

- a) Be it moved that the Provincial Parks Council recommend to the Minister the formation of a Committee on Nature Reserves with its own budget to function as a standing committee of the Parks Council, the Committee members to include some persons from the Parks Council, itself, with the addition of expert members from outside, and with Ministry staff providing the necessary support and liaison with the Parks Branch.

Agreed — 18  
Opposed — 1.

- b) That the Parks Council draw to the attention of the Minister the importance for provincial land use planning of a data bank, in which information on significant and sensitive natural areas of the Province could be recorded and made available for public reference, and that it recommend to the Minister that this function be maintained and properly funded in an appropriate Division of the Ministry.

Agreed — Unanimous.

- c) That in view of the importance of achieving a comprehensive and uniform approach to the identification and protection of significant and sensitive natural areas in the Province;  
and in view of the multitude of unco-ordinated and unrelated activities in this field at present;  
and in recognition of the rapid losses of these areas to development;

Be it moved that the Parks Council urge the Minister to initiate action to provide the necessary leadership and co-ordination in this field, either by instituting an extension service in the Division of Parks, or by funding an appropriate private agency to perform this function.

Agreed — Unanimous.

- d) That in view of the rapid and continuing losses of sensitive and significant natural areas in the Province;  
and in view of the scarcity of funding to acquire such heritage areas at present;

the Parks Council urges that use of the Provincial lottery money be approved as one of a number of means to acquire such areas, with suitable maintenance and management guidelines.

Agreed — 18  
Opposed — 1.

### 12.3 Recommendations

In summary four basic recommendations emitted from Council's consideration of Nature Reserves in 1977:

- i) A Nature Reserves Standing Committee of the Parks Council should be established;
- ii) There is a need for an effective data bank on natural areas within the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- iii) The Ministry should initiate action to provide the necessary leadership and co-ordination for achieving a comprehensive and uniform approach to the identification and protection of significant natural areas in the Province.
- iv) Provincial lottery money should be used as one means of acquiring and protecting natural areas.



Canoeing

## Other Business

### 13.1 The Oriskany Sandstone Site

#### 13.1.1 Background Information

The struggle to protect this natural area near Port Dover was brought to Council's attention at the public meeting in Niagara Falls by Diane Fahselt of the University of Western Ontario. The Chairman visited the site with a number of M.N.R. personnel shortly thereafter.

#### 13.1.2 Resolutions and Recommendations

As a result of Council's deliberations on this matter, the following motions were passed:

1. a) It is absolutely imperative that the importance of this site to the proposed Nature Reserve Program be determined and that such information be made available to all interested parties, the Division of Mines, the O.M.B., the Region and the Township before the upcoming O.M.B. hearing;
- b) The Ministry of Natural Resources should also determine and make known how large an area is needed to protect the ecological value of the site;
- c) This case illustrates the need for a Nature Reserves Standing Committee of the Parks Council;
- d) This case illustrates effectively the need for a body to co-ordinate, inventory and evaluate the various efforts by numerous agencies and organizations concerned with ecological reserves.

Agreed — Unanimous.

2. That The Ontario Heritage Act be amended to provide for the preservation, maintenance, and management of properties of outstanding natural significance.

Agreed — Unanimous.

### 13.2 The Madawaska River

#### 13.2.1 Background Information

It was brought to the attention of Council at its public meeting in Pembroke that the matter of setting aside that stretch of the Madawaska River between Palmer Rapids and Griffith as a Provincial Waterway should be given immediate consideration by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Council had an opportunity to view this section of the river during the time spent in Pembroke.

#### 13.2.2 Resolutions and Recommendations

Council passed the following motion:

That the Madawaska River, particularly the stretch between Palmer Rapids and Griffith, be designated as a Provincial Waterway Park.

Agreed — Unanimous.



Deer

### Public Hearings

Council held public hearings in Toronto, Niagara Falls, Sault Ste. Marie, Wasaga Beach, Atikokan and Pembroke. These hearings were advertised and well attended. Submissions took the form of personal letters, written briefs, audio-visual presentations, telephone calls, conversations and discussions. Everyone attending the public meetings had an opportunity to speak. Council adopted a policy of not debating the contents of a brief during the public hearing. Questions that were asked of the participants were strictly for the purpose of clarification.

Council members were instructed to give individual consideration to each presentation and then each brief was discussed in detail subsequent to its presentation. After discussion, any member of the Council could suggest comments that he or she felt should go forward to the Minister. In some cases resolutions were put forward and voted upon.

The presentations were sent to the Minister with Council's comments and resolutions, copies of which were sent to the presenter of the briefs. The briefs had a significant impact on Council's over-all deliberations and the public hearings were a significant part of their function. Anyone wishing to know the response to a specific presentation should write or phone the Council office:

Dr. George Priddle,  
Chairman,  
Provincial Parks Council,  
Environmental Studies Building,  
Room 331,  
University of Waterloo,  
Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1,  
Phone: 519/885-1211, Ext. 2762.

The following is a list of the people and organizations making submissions to Council during 1977:

1. J. Armaly — United Handicapped Groups of Ontario
2. G. Jensen — The Tobermory Club for Environmental Quality
3. R. Burchell — Sierra Club of Ontario
4. T. Storey — Rondeau Park Leaseholders' Association
5. R. Morgan — The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
6. W. Lee — Blackstone Harbour
7. H. H. Campbell — Ecological Education Club
8. R. Cowan — Toronto
9. R. Hambrook — Burlington
10. H. Flint — Hamilton
11. A. J. Collins — Toronto
12. B. Kindree — Canadian Family Camping Federation Inc.

13. N. Hart — Thousand Island Motorcycle Club Inc.
14. W. Zywoit — Toronto
15. R. Anglin — CL 16 Class Association
16. P. Aird — Faculty of Forestry — University of Toronto
17. B. Cragg, P. Hardy — Algonquin Wildlands League
18. D. Davies — Toronto
19. J. Struik, J. Vance — Bancroft Fish and Game Protective Association
20. J. Stuckey — Toronto
21. J. Medd, P. Eng. — Ottawa
22. W. R. Hall — Hall's Cottages — Parry Sound
23. R. Beggs — Mississauga
24. O. Remmler — German-Canadian Fish and Game Club of Guelph
25. G. Stephenson — Jock River Fish and Game Club — North Gower
26. Mrs. B. Planck — Ontario Federation for the Physically Handicapped
27. B. Henry — Ottawa
28. Prof. D. Fahselt, University of Western Ontario — Oriskany of Ontario
29. J. P. Erichsen-Brown — King
30. E. Robertson — Canadian Family Camping Association
31. T. Lochart — St. Catharines
32. D. Pady — Moorelands — Kawagama Family Camp
33. Conservation Council of Ontario
34. S. Hilts — University of Western Ontario
35. W. Richardson — Wilderness Canoe Association, Scarborough
36. J. Nagy — Niagara Falls
37. J. Hasler — Niagara Falls
38. M. McLean — Sarnia
39. G. LaHaye — Sault Ste. Marie
40. V. Hamilton — Sault Ste. Marie
41. J. McDonald — Sault Ste. Marie
42. F. Weir — Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
43. H. Graham — Sault Rapids Society
44. J. Tibbles — Environment Canada Fisheries
45. P. Syme — Voyageur Trail Association
46. H. Brain — Sault Ste. Marie
47. R. Mervyn — Sault Ste. Marie
48. D. Bulford — Sault Ste. Marie
49. R. Hewitt — Parks Canada
50. R. Watts — London
51. K. Mitchell — Wasaga Beach Chamber of Commerce
52. J. Davies — London
53. G. Ginn — Wasaga Beach
54. H. Bridle — Cambridge
55. T. Korten — Toronto
56. G. Schwiager — Wasaga Beach
57. G. Domagala — Wasaga Beach
58. H. Gillies — Wasaga Beach
59. Mrs. J. Jones — Ajax
60. R. Kentner — Radio Station CFOS Owen Sound
61. T. Green — National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada
62. R. Pratt — Canadian Nature Federation
63. R. Thew — Canadian Quetico Outfitters Ltd.
64. J. Hodge — Northwestern Ontario Campowners' Association
65. T. Miyata — Atikokan
66. R. Hiner — Atikokan
67. C. Ericksen — Voyageur Wilderness Programme
68. A. Kerr — Atikokan
69. P. Sawdo — Atikokan
70. P. Capper — Atikokan
71. M. Manns — Atikokan
72. B. Dickson — Atikokan
73. E. Thurier — North Western Ontario Carriers Association
74. P. Cotten — Atikokan
75. Chief S. Jordain — Lac La Croix Band — Atikokan
76. R. Handberg — Campbell's Cabins and Trading Post Limited
77. C. Hunt — Bancroft Fish and Game Club
78. J. Parnell — Windsor
79. F. W. Luff — Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
80. Conservation Council of Ontario
81. D. Brunton — Canmore, Alberta
82. R. J. Craig, C.A. — Summerstown
83. L. James — Markham — 'Save the Rouge Valley System'
84. G. Harvey — 'Action Superior'
85. A. Beck — O.F.A.H. — Pembroke
86. J. Poley — Adult Wilderness Group
87. D. Beauprie — Deep River
88. Wm. Patterson — McKenzie High School — Deep River
89. R. Wensel — Deep River

## The Future

Council will meet in 1978 at the following times and places:

March	2, 3, 4	— Toronto
April	23, 24, 25	— Windsor
June	22, 23, 24	— Killarney
September	7, 8, 9	— Peterborough
November	16, 17, 18	— Toronto

The Minister has charged the Council with:

1. Expediting a budget cut for the Council from \$57,000. to \$40,000.
2. A possible simplification of regulations made under The Provincial Parks Act.
3. Reviewing a discussion paper entitled: *The Occupier and The Law: Occupier's Liability, Trespass and the Recreational Use of Land.*
4. Consideration of a draft policy document dealing with play areas in Provincial Parks.
5. Determining if there is a need for, and then if necessary recommending, changes to The Provincial Parks Act.
6. Developing a method and the means for involving the public in 1979 in the five-year review of the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan.

In 1979 Council's primary function will be to review the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan with the public. The Ministry and the Parks Council will develop, for distribution in 1979, a document that will attempt to identify the issues as they relate to the Master Plan for Algonquin Provincial Park.

This information will be distributed to every individual and group on the Council's mailing list plus anyone else known to be interested in the Algonquin Provincial Park planning process. Anyone requesting a copy of the information will receive it. Council will hold a series of one-day participation sessions. At these sessions there will be both a drop-in information centre and a public meeting, at which the Parks Council and Ministry of Natural Resources personnel will be in attendance.

Council's meetings for 1979 are tentatively scheduled for:

March	8, 9*, 10	— Toronto
April	26, 27*, 28	— Pembroke
June	21, 22*, 23	— Ottawa
August	16*, 17*, 18*, 19	— South River, Huntsville and Algonquin Park

\* Public Meeting and Information Centre

Anyone wishing to appear before Council at any of these times or anyone wishing to know more about the master plan review process should contact the Parks Council office.







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